tries like Britain, Netherlands, West Germany and France have refused to grant air worthiness certificate to the new aircraft unless certain modifications are carried out by the company; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Air India and Indian Airlines do not have any Boeing 747-400 aircraft in their fleet. It is understood that there is a dialogue under way between American and European Airworthiness Authorities regarding certification standards applicable to Boeing 747-400 aircraft. It is, however, not uncommon for airworthiness authorities in importing countries to lay down additional certification requirements to meet local standards.

Shortage of funds in running National Literacy Programme

*35. SHRI N.E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Literacy Programme continues to suffer from shortage of funds; and

(b) if so, what is the requirement of funds for the programme for the current year and the actual amount provided therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Although the actual availability of funds has been less than the projected requirement, the tempo of the National Literacy Programme has been maintained.

(b) Against the total estimated requirement of Rs. 227.88 crores (Rs. 167.90 crores in the Central Sector and Rs. 59.98 crores in the State Sector), the actual allocation during the current financial year is Rs. 132.09 crores (Rs. 76.17 crores in the Central Sector and Rs. 55.92 crores in the State Sector).

Excess expenditure incurred on Apna Utsav

*36. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the justification for the excess expenditure incurred, as against the approved budget of Rs. 5.5 crores for the festival "Apna Utsav" as pointed out in the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General;

(b) what methodology was adopted to monitor the expenditure incurred by the various agencies;

(c) what action has been taken by Government for non-furnishing of the certificates in respect of the utilisation of grants by the concerned Zonal Centres; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government for irregular payments made to the artists by the National Cultural Festival Delhi Society without framing any norms in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Against the approved estimates of Rs. 4.90 crores a sum of Rs. 5.70 crores was released. Actual expenditure assessed, however, is Rs. 5.51 crores. The excess over initial estimates was primarily due to increase in number of artistes, increase in number of days of Festival, publicity and on site development.

(b) Government had entrusted the task of monitoring the expenditure to the Finance Committee of the National Cultural Festival Society.

(c) Two Zonal Cultural Centres have since submitted the utilisation certificates. Other Centres have been asked to submit the utilisation certificates without further delay.

(d) No irregular payments were made to artistes. Competent authorities had approved the rates taking into account all circumstances and the status of the artist involved.

News item captioned "Serious Structural flaws in Indira Gandhi Airport"

*37. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in "The Sunday Observer" dated the 18th June, 1989 captioned "Serious Structural flaws in Indira Gandhi Airport";

(b) if so, what are the details of the structural flaws detected in the construction of Indira Gandhi Airport; and

(c) what is Governments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There are no structural flaws as such in the New International Terminal at IGI Airport. Certain defects in works were, however, noticed before commissioning of the terminal which were rectified at the cost of the contractors.

Railway Minister's discussions with Governments of Malaysia, Australia and Indonesia

*38. SHRI KAPIL VERMA :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he during his recent visit to Malaysia offered India's expertise and technology for the development and expansion of Rail network of Malaysia; if so, what proposals have been agreed upon ; and

(b) what was the outcome of discussions he had in Australia and Indonesia about cooperation in the sphere of Railways with them ; and what proposals have been agreed upon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Malaysian Government has agreed to consider the association of Indian companies in various developmental projects and to avail of training facilities in Railway Technology available in India. There is a strong possibility that Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON) who are already working on a Rs. 100 crores project for track rehabilitation in Malaysia may get further contracts for railway signalling works, highway and bridge construction and advanced training centre.

(b) *Indonesia :*

The possibilities of cooperation in the fields of Railway Construction, upgrading of railway network and construction of bridges by using Indian Railway expertise were explored. IRCON have recently secured a contract for railway electri-